IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):   Stubblebine   April 20, 2001

Serial No.:   Cont. of 09/689859   Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith   Examiner: Unassigned

For: SPECIFYING SECURITY PROTOCOLS AND POLICY CONSTRAINTS IN
                DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

Please amend the above-identified continuation application as follows. No new matter is
added.

I.   IN THE CLAIMS

Please CANCEL claim 1.

Please ADD the following NEW claims:

52. (NEW)   A method for system security in distributed systems, comprising the steps of:

a)   deriving freshness constraints from initial policy assumptions and an authentic

statement;

b)   imposing freshness constraints by employing recent-secure authenticating

principals to effect revocation; and

c)   verifying that a relation $| t_{now} - t_{time\ stamp} | \leq \delta$ is satisfied for verification of a

secure channel, where $t_{time\ stamp}$ being a time of a time stamp pertaining to a validity assertion of a

particular assertion, δ being a minimum necessary freshness constraint pertaining to the

particular assertion and t_{now} being the time of verification.

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